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**FIRST ELECTION GOES TO A LIBERAL;
ODDS NOW SIX TO FOUR ON BANNERMAN****Large Number of Seats Being Handed Over Unionists Without a Contest—
Churchill Shakes Manchester and Balfour May Lose—Warm Fight at Ipswich.**

London, Jan. 12.—The general election opened this morning and by 10 o'clock the name of the first member of the new Parliament was announced, Sir Christopher Furness, Liberal, being returned for Hartlepool. A little later the score was evened by the unopposed re-election of Austin Taylor, for East Tooten. In the course of the day two more Liberals were elected without contest.

The Ipswich Fight.

Nominations were made today in 180 boroughs. The elections in these boroughs will commence tomorrow and last for several days. Ipswich is the only borough polling today. For ten years past Ipswich has returned one Conservative and one Liberal. Both the late members, Sir Charles Dalrymple, Conservative, and Daniel Ford Goddard, Liberal, are candidates for re-election, and both political parties are making strenuous efforts to capture the seats. The workmen have a

large majority of the votes so the campaign centers on the fiscal fight. Looks Like Liberal Victories.

One of the remarkable features of the campaign is the extraordinary number of seats handed over to the Liberals without any attempt of the Unionists to contest them. This is attributed in Conservative circles to the certainty that the Liberals will win the election, it being argued that it is better to reserve the Conservative strength for a later struggle, which is anticipated after the Liberals have held office for a year or two, when the Unionists consider that the chances of their being returned to power will be more promising. There is, however, great uncertainty on all sides as to the extent of the Liberal victory. The Liberal enthusiasts claim that their party will have a working majority independent of the Irish Nationalists, but more conservative estimates give Premier Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman a majority of only 60 or 70, leaving the Irish Nationalists the balance of power.

Balfour May Lose.

Arthur J. Balfour's seat, East Man-

chester, appears to be endangered. Winston Churchill's amazing vitality and enthusiasm have spread beyond his own division (Oldham, near Manchester), and have infected the whole city of Manchester, causing the Liberals to claim that they will capture tomorrow several seats there which during the last Parliament were held by Unionists.

There is little betting on the general result as the earlier elections, on which the fate of such important candidates as Balfour, George Wyndham (Conservative, Dover), Sir Gilbert Parker (Conservative, Gravesend), and Winston Churchill, all of whose contests occur tomorrow, are liable to have widespread influence on the voters in the later elections. At some of the Liberal clubs the odds of 6 to 4 have been laid against the re-election of Mr. Balfour.

Much interest attaches to the efforts of the labor party to secure the return of a sufficient number of members to make the Independent Labor party an effective force in the new House of Commons. Some 80 candidates, laborites and socialists, are running.

**IT LOOKS OMINOUS
FOR MR. CASTRO****Another Crisis Over Franco-Venezuelan Questions at Hand, Says Paris.**

Paris, Jan. 12.—The Venezuelan question, although subordinated in public opinion to the Moroccan conference, is occupying the serious attention of the foreign office, but the strictest discretion is observed in this connection. A highly-placed diplomat, however, declared this morning that it might be considered certain that the moment was rapidly approaching when a crisis would occur in Venezuela. He was unable to state the exact character which events would assume, but asserted that a perfect understanding had always existed between France and the United States. The two Governments were in absolute accord on the question at issue, France's line of conduct being based on that of the United States. France was merely desirous of securing perfect respect for her rights.

A cabinet meeting will occur here today, when the Venezuelan question is likely to be discussed.

The French Elections.

Paris, Jan. 12.—At a meeting of the cabinet, held today, the date of the election of the new president of France was fixed for Jan. 17.

**SHOULD BE RADICAL CHANGE,
SAYS THE CHIEF JUSTICE****Present Method of Caring for Insane Not Up to Requirements—More Prison Room Also Wanted.**

The grand jury made its presentation to Chief Justice Meredith at the winter assizes this morning, and was discharged from further attendance. The jury drew attention to the fact that of the 30 prisoners now in the county jail, eight were for the Central Prison, but could not be taken there owing to lack of accommodation. The jury therefore recommended that the Central should be enlarged or a new prison built, thus endorsing the remarks along that line made by the chief justice at the opening of the court. The county jails are not in a position to handle prisoners sentenced to hard labor, and late prisoners are generally bad. The jury recommended that the insane man who has been in the jail for a long time. His removal to the Asylum was recommended. Governor Carter and his staff were highly commended for the efficiency of their management. The management of Victoria Hospital, the Asylum and the Thomas Alway Hall Home was also referred to in the highest terms.

Chief Justice Meredith said he would see that a copy of the presentment was sent to the Provincial Government regarding the conditions referred to, as the active of the jury should be at the disposal of the Government. "I suppose it is necessary for increased accommodation for persons sent to an institution like the Central Prison. Whether it were better to extend the present Central Prison, or erect a new prison at some central point is in the hands of the Government. If the latter course were de-

**STRATHCONA SEES
SPLENDID FUTURE****By 2000 Canada Will Have Greater Population Than British Isles.**

Montreal, Jan. 12.—Lord Strathcona, prior to leaving for New York, whence he will sail by the steamer Carmania for England, delivered an address yesterday afternoon at the opening of the St. Lawrence Curling Club's new rink. He took occasion to speak with great optimism of the future of Canada, predicting that by the end of the present century there would be a population in the Dominion twice as large as the combined populations of Great Britain and Ireland. Everything was favorable to that end, and the natural conditions of the country could scarcely be improved upon. It was also satisfactory to know that the prosperity here, past and present, was due not to a boom, but to those natural conditions. He wished to be remembered by his friends not as Lord Strathcona, but as Donald Smith, his name of bygone days, when first he knew them. A large number of prominent gentlemen gathered at the station this evening to see the high commissioner depart.

A SINGULAR FATALITY**Machine Hurts Pair of Shears Which Punctures Heart.**

Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 12.—John Timko, a burly in a local factory, was killed almost instantly late yesterday by being pierced to the heart by a blade of a pair of shears. Timko was working at a buffing wheel, and in some manner lost his hold of the blade as the point was nearing the wheel. The blade was caught, followed the wheel, and shot directly toward him with such force that the sharp point penetrated through his clothing and punctured his heart. The medical examiner says the accident was one of the most singular ever brought to his attention.

A TRIUMPH FOR OKU**Tokio Acclaims the Hero of Nanshan, Tieling and Port Arthur.**

Tokio, Jan. 12.—Gen. Oku, who commanded the left army during the war with Russia, made a triumphal entry into the capital this morning. The general, who was accompanied by his staff, drove in the imperial carriage to the palace. The greatest enthusiasm was manifested by the people who lined the route, cries of "Nanshan!" and "Tieling!" greeting the general who isolated Port Arthur at a critical stage of the campaign.

MORALES A FUGITIVE**Insurgent President of Morocco at the American Legation.**

San Domingo, Jan. 12.—The fugitive President Morales has sought refuge in the American legation here. Negotiations are in progress with the object of inducing Gen. Morales to resign the presidency and leave Santo Domingo. It is said here that steps taken by Morales in seeking the protection of the United States flag virtually put an end to the disturbances in this republic.

WANTED TO GET EVEN**Fourteen-Year-Old Inmate Started Mimico School Fire.**

Toronto, Jan. 12.—Incendiarism, unexplained by any motive except some fancied grievance, it is announced, was the cause of the \$16,000 fire at the Victoria Industrial School at Mimico last Monday. The culprit, who has acknowledged his fault, was one of inmates of the institution, a boy of 14 years of age, whose conduct up to the present while in the school has been most exemplary. His action was entirely his own conception, and he had no accomplices in its performance. He is discovered to have been the person who attempted to burn one of the outbuildings of the school on the previous Saturday. At present the boy is in confinement. He will be examined by the doctors as to his sanity. The result of this examination will be awaited before further action is taken.

It was at first believed that to defective heating apparatus the disaster of Monday might be ascribed. On Wednesday, however, another of the pupils reported to Principal C. O. Ferrier that the boy in question had threatened to burn the school. When the matter was investigated, the culprit smilingly admitted his guilt. He had kindled a fire in such a way as to ignite a number of air-shafts used to ventilate the building. His only explanation of his conduct was that he wanted to "get even" because he was not released when he should have been.

**HADLEY CORRALS
A STAR WITNESS****Was Office Boy of John D. and Confidential Man.****KNOWS ALL TRUST'S SECRETS****Sees No Reason Why He Should Not Testify in the Missouri State's Investigation.**

New York, Jan. 12.—According to the Times today, through an anonymous letter signed "A Wall Street Clerk," Attorney-General Hadley, of Missouri, discovered yesterday a witness whose testimony he thinks will probably be of great value in the Standard Oil Company investigation, which he is conducting.

This witness, John Corkill, began his business career as John D. Rockefeller's office boy, and worked his way up until he was confidential man to W. E. Bemis, manager of the Standard's clearing house. Mr. Corkill continued with the Standard until John D. Rockefeller's retirement from active management. Corkill then determined that the best thing he could do was to resign.

He did so and was soon afterward appointed secretary to Police Commissioner Partridge. Later he severed his connection with the police department and went into the curb brokerage business.

Immediately on receipt of the letter the Missouriian turned the letter over to Rush Lake, assistant attorney-general of Missouri. Before the day was over Mr. Corkill was traced to the law office of Charles E. Hunter in Broadway.

"Mr. Corkill," said Mr. Lake, "the State of Missouri has instituted proceedings to show that the Standard Oil Company, of Indiana, the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, and the Republic Oil Company are all part of the Standard Oil Trust. I understand that you know something about the operations of these companies, and I desire to call you as a witness."

"Sure," said Mr. Corkill. "They're all at 26 Broadway. While I was with Mr. Bemis all their reports passed through the office. I don't know about testifying though. I guess you'd better talk to my lawyer."

Mr. Hunter, called into the conference, said he could see no reason why Mr. Corkill should not tell what he knew.

When news of the discovery of Corkill and what the latter said was brought to Attorney-General Hadley he was jubilant.

"He will make the best witness we have had," he declared. "Of course, I secured the issuance of a subpoena for W. E. Bemis, without waiting a second. I hope we catch him."

A representative hotelkeeper later informed the reporter that he had

GETTING READY FOR BIG BANQUET

[Special to The Advertiser.] Toronto, Jan. 12.—A meeting of Liberals from all parts of the Province was held at the King Edward Hotel this afternoon to make final arrangements for the big banquet to be tendered Sir Wilfrid Laurier on Feb. 21. The banquet is to be tendered by the Liberal party of Ontario, and will be one of the largest functions of the kind ever attempted in Ontario. Arrangements are about completed for holding the dinner in Massey Hall. Admission to the hall will be by invitation only, and plans are now being made to deal with this difficult phase of the question. More applications will be received than can possibly be considered, and a time limit will be placed for receiving applications, which will probably be about the middle of February.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Fair.
Sun rises, 7:49 a.m. Moon rises, 7:21 p.m.
Sun sets, 5:03 p.m. Moon sets, 3:02 a.m.
Toronto, Jan. 11—8 p.m.
Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 52 below—50 below; Victoria, 38—28; Calgary, zero—18; Edmonton, 10—26; Swift Current, 6—22; Winnipeg, 8—34; Port Arthur, 20—32; Parry Sound, 20—32; Toronto, 20—38; Ottawa, 4—20; Montreal, 2—18; Quebec, 2 below—22; St. John, 4—34; Halifax, zero—23.

FORECASTS.
Friday, Jan. 12—8 a.m.
Fair today and on Saturday; a few degrees of frost at night.

TEMPERATURES.
Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather.
Calgary..... 14..... 10..... Cloudy
Winnipeg..... 0..... 0..... Clear
Parry Sound..... 30..... 30..... Fair
Toronto..... 32..... 22..... Clear
Ottawa..... 34..... 18..... Fair
Montreal..... 34..... 16..... Cloudy
Quebec..... 28..... 20..... Snow
Father Point..... 28..... 16..... Cloudy

WEATHER NOTES.
Moderately cold weather prevails in the Northwest Provinces and mild conditions elsewhere. Numerous depressions exist on the continent this morning, and the weather remains very cold in the Yukon. LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Thursday were: Highest, 38°; lowest, 22° above

**Drunkard's Children
Get Big Damages**

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Damages in \$17,500 were awarded by a jury yesterday to the children of a drunken father for redress against the saloonkeepers, alleged to have made a drunkard of him. The verdict, establishing a precedent which will result in the institution of many similar suits, was rendered in Judge Richard S. Tuthill's court. The plaintiffs were the five children of John Hedlund, and the defendants, Oscar Geyer, Louis Lundquist, and Ernest Thoren, saloonkeepers. The verdict is against them separately and jointly.

The condition of the Hedlund family first was brought to the attention of the authorities by Miss Caroline Blinn, of the University of Chicago settlement. She found the children in destitute condition, and was instrumental in having the cases started against the saloonkeepers. The children have been compelled at times to go after beer for their father.

MAY SUCCEED DR. HARPER**Principal of McGill Mentioned For Head of Chicago University.**

Montreal, Jan. 12.—Principal Peterson, of McGill University, is mentioned as a likely successor to the late Dr. Harper as president of the University of Chicago. Dr. Peterson was a close personal friend of the great Chicago educationist, and some months ago the latter paid a visit to Montreal as Dr. Peterson's guest. When asked if the report that he would succeed Dr. Harper was correct, Dr. Peterson said: "I have no statement to give out in the matter."

COSSACKS SACK SEMINARY**350 Armenian Rebels Killed in Tiflis, Trans-Caucasia.**

Tiflis, Caucasasia, Jan. 12.—Nearly 350 persons were killed or injured as an outcome of an attack made by Cossacks yesterday on the Armenian seminary here, following the throwing of two bombs from that institution at a passing patrol. Four Cossacks were wounded and a boy was killed by the explosion of the bombs. Artillery was immediately called upon, and the seminary was surrounded and shelled. The building soon burst into flames, and the bombs and cartridges stored there exploded. Thirty-three persons perished during the conflagration, while three hundred were injured by fire or wounded by shells. The troops subsequently shelled another Armenian house where bombs and weapons were

**Alderman Is Canvassed
To Cut Off 12 Licenses**

An alderman told The Advertiser today that he has been canvassed to vote for a proposal which is to be submitted to the council to reduce the number of liquor licenses in London to twenty. The alderman quoted is one of the new men and was on the temperance ticket.

A representative hotelkeeper later informed the reporter that he had

heard that such a move is to be made on Monday night.

Certain temperance workers stated, however, that if any such move is made it will be on the part of some individual, as the temperance people will be satisfied with the reduction sanctioned by the people at the polls on Jan. 1.

Of course, the council has the power to fix the number of licenses at any figure it cares to name.

TO FIGHT WHITE PLAQUE

A meeting of the executive committee of the London Association for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis was held in the city hall yesterday. Mr. Thomas McCormick presided, and the attendance was large.

London Association Will Soon Make a Move in that Direction.

A subscription list will be circulated shortly. The point was made that if the people were aware that in London and the vicinity there are probably 300 cases of consumption, and that the disease is highly contagious, they would be found more than willing to contribute funds to help fight the disease.

FIVE YEARS FOR LAROCQUE**A Verdict of Manslaughter in the Ottawa Murder Case.**

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—After being out eight hours, the jury in the Larocque murder case returned a verdict of manslaughter. There was no direct evidence as to the actual killing, but the circumstances all pointed to Larocque as being the man who caused James Burke's death in a drunken row on New Year's night. Judge Teetzel sentenced Larocque to five years in the penitentiary.

**INFORMERS ARE UNDER PAY
OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT****Admit in Liquor Case That They Act on Instructions From Toronto—Another Hotelman Is Fined.**

The recent proceedings against the several hotelmen in Stratford and London have made the latter stand up and take notice, as it were. Something of a surprise was sprung this morning by the appearance in the liquor men's interests of Mr. James Haverson, of Toronto, solicitor for the Licensed Liquor-men's Association, although he did not appear either in Stratford or at the court yesterday.

The evidence produced this morning in the police court disclosed the fact that the two informers, David Corcoran and Jerry Dondino, are salaried agents of the provincial authorities, and that their duties consist in visiting the hotels and ascertaining whether the law is kept or not. In other words, they are private detectives with a special line of work. They received their instructions direct from Toronto and were under the direction of Provincial Inspector George E. Morrison.

Yesterday four local hotelmen were heavily fined for breaking the law, one of them on two different charges. They were John Evans, John Jennings, Jas. Butler and Wm. Collins. This morning two more were charged with selling liquor in prohibited hours. They were: Brammer Harrison, proprietor of the Boswell House, on King street, and William H. Mahon, proprietor of the Grand Central Hotel, corner of King and Ridout streets.

The courtroom was crowded, a great many curious people being unable to gain admission. Many prominent temperance workers were present, and mostly all the local officials interested. The proceedings held the interest of all throughout the greater part of the day.

Seventeen in the Bar.

In the charge against Harrison, Cor-

coran swore that he and his friend Dondino had visited the defendant's hotel on the morning of Dec. 31, and had received a drink. Campbell and Dondino may have had two. There were in all seventeen people in the bar.

To Mr. Haverson the witness stated that he had entered Harrison's bar along with several others, besides his two companions. Corcoran testifies brought the name of Campbell, his brother-in-law, into the case.

"Who is this Mr. Donohue, or whatever his name is?" asked Mr. Haverson.

"My friend Dondino."

"What is he—an Italian of a Frenchman?"

"An Irishman, I think," interposed Mr. McKillop. "His first name is Jerry."

"Were you sober?" went on Mr. Haverson.

"I was."

"What is your business?"

"I'm working under instructions of the provincial inspector, Mr. George E. Morrison."

"What did you do when you were at home?"

"I was working at anything that I could make an honest living at."

"So when you couldn't make an honest living you went into this business?" said the solicitor.

"By salary," he replied.

Mr. McKillop objected to the witness having to state the amount of his salary, but the question was allowed to pass. The witness said that he received \$2 a day and expenses.

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**BANWELL CAUGHT
IN WEST INDIES****Abducting Bank Clerk of Toronto Located at Kingston, Jamaica.**

Toronto, Jan. 11.—A cable was received at police headquarters tonight from Kingston, Jamaica, from Detective Back of the city force, stating he had arrested E. S. Banwell, the defaulting teller of the Crown Bank of Toronto.

Banwell left the bank as usual Saturday afternoon, Dec. 9, and on the next Monday, when he did not turn up, it was found he had taken bank funds, and with Nora Hector, his fiancée, of Etobicoke, Ont., had fled the country.

The amount of his peculation is still a matter of mystery. The bank statement to the press puts it at \$1,487 in gold and \$20,000 in unsigned \$50-bills, gold and \$20,000 in unsigned \$50-bills. Subsequently it was admitted he got \$1,700 in miscellaneous cash.

The Pinkerton Agency circulars included the amount to total, including unsigned notes, \$40,200.

The Toronto police were told it was in all, \$22,670.

When Bank Manager O'Grady was spoken to tonight, he refused to make a statement.

Told that the loss was being estimated at \$20,000, he said, "That's wrong."

Bank gossip has placed it at \$60,000, and even up to \$100,000.

Banwell is a young fellow, son of a retired clergyman, and has borne a good reputation. The girl is a society favorite.

From Toronto they were traced to Buffalo, where it is said they were married; then to New York City, where he was almost caught trying to exchange bills, and thence south.

He can be brought back direct from Jamaica to Halifax.

Banwell Took \$40,000.

Toronto, Jan. 12.—Toronto Bank announced today that Banwell got away with \$40,353. He spent \$1,350 on his trip across the continent. The entire sum, with this exception, and \$1,000 sent home to a friend, were recovered on the fugitive from justice at Kingston, Jamaica.

ITALY FOR FRANCE AND PEACE,**SAYS AGENT TO MOROCCAN TALK**

Paris, Jan. 12.—The Marquis Visconti Venosta, head of the Italian delegation to the Moroccan conference at Algiers, arrived here from Rome last night. He had a short interview with Premier Rouvier and was afterwards received by Prince von Radolin, the German ambassador, with whom he conferred for an hour.

The Echo de Paris this morning says that its representative had an interview with the marquis on the train between Dijon and Paris, and that the Italian statesman authorized the following statement:

"The good wishes of the whole of Italy accompany me to Algiers. It is the most ardent desire of my country, my king and my government, alike, and I am confident that the conference will be able to arrive at a conclusion, the result of which will be a durable and solid peace. As for myself, I shall be faithful to my man-

**THIEF CHANGES
SUIT IN STORE****Sheds Old Clothes and Dons New Outfit While Clerks Were Busy Elsewhere.**

Montreal, Jan. 12.—Particulars of a daring daylight robbery has just been reported to the police. A youth walked into H. Shorey & Co.'s wholesale clothing warehouse yesterday afternoon, and as the clerks were busy he was allowed to wander about at will. After a time he disappeared, and nothing more was thought about him until later it was discovered that he had gone into a dark corner, removed a much worn suit from his back, and readjusted himself with the best outfit available, including a good overcoat.

DO NOT FEAR FOY**Cobalt Mining Company Say They Have Stuck to Rules.**

New Liskeard, Jan. 11.—Little concern is felt among the directors of the Temiskaming and Hudson Bay Mining Company over the action of Attorney-General Foy in issuing a writ to test the validity of the claims of discovery filed by the directors of the company. Not a single transfer of stock has taken place.

The company is known to have a strong defense, and the statements made in Toronto papers are grossly exaggerated, as is shown in a statement handed out by the directors today. The company does not own a whole township, but, as a matter of fact, only 288 acres, and it was allowed by law to hold as much as 640 acres when the claims were staked.

The shareholders are for the most part New Ontario people, who are pioneers in the development of the mineral as well as the commercial and agricultural resources of the district. According to Mr. D. E. K. McEwen, of New Liskeard, the solicitor of the company, the only real question raised by the attorney-general is as to whether or not the claims have been made, and these, he says, can be proven in every instance.

"We have complied strictly with every regulation," is the statement of Mr. Geo. Taylor, the president of the company.

As the friend of France, and of peace, and I shall spare no effort to accomplish the task to which I have been assigned."

Von Buelow Assures.

New York, Jan. 12.—A Berlin dispatch to the Herald dated Thursday says: Prince von Buelow left here for Rome this evening. I saw him before he started and he authorized me to make the following communication:

"Neither his majesty the Kaiser nor anybody else in Germany dreams of bringing the slightest pressure upon France at the expense of French national dignity, at the conference, where there should be neither conquerors nor conquered. Germany stands for equality of opportunity in the trade of Morocco, the open door for all nations alike, and if this principle be accepted by others I expect the conference will have a successful issue. Germany seeks no advantages which are not to be shared all alike."